



# GENERATING EQUIVALENT EXPRESSIONS

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## PRE-PLANNING

### LEARNING GOALS

- Identify equivalent expressions by evaluating for the same value of the variable
- Identify equivalent expressions using properties of operations
- Generate equivalent expressions using properties of operations
- Identify parts of an expression using mathematical terms; view one or more parts of an expression as a single entity; define: expression, coefficient, term, like terms

### STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- CCSS.Math.Content.6.EE.A.3 (Apply the properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions.)
- CCSS.Math.Content.6.EE.A.2.b (Identify parts of an expression using mathematical terms (sum, term, product, factor, quotient, coefficient); view one or more parts of an expression as a single entity.)
- CCSS.Math.Content.6.EE.A.4 (Identify when two expressions are equivalent (i.e., when the two expressions name the same number regardless of which value is substituted into them).)

### CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT

GoMath Grade 6, Lesson 10.3

### PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

- Use a bar model or algebra tiles to represent variables and constants
- Evaluate expressions with a given value

### MATERIALS

- Technology: 2:1 or 1:1 laptop, chromebook, or iPad
- PhET sim: [Expression Exchange](#)
- Activity sheet
- Exit tickets

## LESSON PLAN (50 MINUTES)

### WARM-UP

5  
MINUTES

Display on the board. Have students respond independently in their notebooks.

- Evaluate the following expressions for the given values:
  - $5(x + 1)$  when  $x=3$
  - $5x + 5$  when  $x=3$
  - $5x + 65$  when  $x=3$
  - $5(13 + x)$  when  $x=3$
- Look at the sets of coins in A, B, and C. Which two sets are equivalent? How do you know?



Have three different students write answers to #1 on the board while others finish their work. Walk around to see what students are writing. When students are finished, call on a student to share their answer to #2 who answered something along the lines of “A and C are equivalent because they both have the same coins they are just stacked differently.”

### MINI-LESSON: PROPERTIES OF ADDITION/MULTIPLICATION

8  
MINUTES

*Say: If you look at #1 in the warm-up, (a) and (b) both have the same value, and (c) and (d) both have the same value. Why is this?*

*We know that  $5(x + 1)$  and  $5x + 5$  are equivalent because we can substitute any value for  $x$  and they equal the same value. We ALSO know they are equivalent because of the **distribution** property.*

$$5(x+1)$$

$$5(x) + 5(1)$$

$$5x + 5$$

Have students check that this is true with a few other expressions:

- $6(2 + 4)$
- $8(5 - 3)$
- $-2(1 + 5)$  **\*\* Students may have difficulty distributing a negative sign, so remind them that BOTH 1 and 5 are being multiplied by the -2.\*\***

*Say: Other properties can also be used to identify equivalent expressions. Check that these statements are true. Show any work.*

Have students make a table in their notes. Project this same table on the board:

	True?	Name of Property
$3 + 4 = 4 + 3$		Commutative property of addition
$2 \cdot 4 = 4 \cdot 2$		Commutative property of multiplication
$(3 + 4) + 5 = 3 + (4 + 5)$		Associative property of addition
$(2 \cdot 4) \cdot 3 = 2 \cdot (4 \cdot 3)$		Associative property of multiplication
$6(2 + 4) = 6(2) + 6(4)$ $8(5 - 3) = 8(5) + 8(-3)$ $-2(1 + 5) = -2(1) + -2(5)$		Distributive property of multiplication over addition
$9 + 0 = 9$		Additive identity property
$1 \cdot 7 = 7$		Multiplicative identity property

Fill in the name of the property after students have confirmed that each statement is true.

Have students add a fourth column to the table and make their own examples for each property. Allow different students to write their examples on the board.

### SIM-BASED LESSON

**5**  
MINUTES

Have students collect their technology and pull up the PhET simulation *Expression Exchange*.

Have students play with the sim for 5 minutes while walking around to address issues that arise or to observe findings that students make about the sim.

Facilitate a discussion about observations/questions that students have about the sim. Have students share out some of their observations, and allow students to respond to questions (if they have an answer).

If students did not mention the following features of Expression Exchange, be sure to explicitly point them out in the sim and call on students to describe what they do:

**5**  
MINUTES

coin values  variable values

shows the value if you were to substitute

*Say: Who can remind us what a variable is? (Review from 10.1 and 10.2)*



allows you to control the values of the variables, but not the coins

$+x$    $-x$

Variables screen only-changes how you view the subtraction but does not change the expression



*Say: How do we break up an expression?*



## SUMMARY + EXIT TICKET

8

MINUTES

Define vocabulary words/phrases found in the activity sheet. Project the following words on the board and solicit student definitions that are similar to the following:

- **Coefficient:** A number multiplied by a variable
- **Term:** A single number or a variable, or numbers and variables being multiplied together
- **Like Terms:** Terms whose variables and exponents are the same
- **Expression:** A group of terms (or a single term) being added or subtracted
- **Equivalent Expressions:** Two (or more) expressions that are the same
- **Simplified Expression:** An expression that does not have any parentheses or like terms

4

MINUTES

Exit Ticket: Have students respond to the following on a post-it or notecard. Collect them as students exit the room and review to assess student understanding.

Simplify the following expression by combining like terms:

$$-3m^2 + 2m + 5m^2 - 4m + 7$$

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERATING EQUIVALENT EXPRESSIONS

 = turn and talk. Stop and share your responses with your partner. If you have different responses, try to come to a consensus.

- 1 Play with the sim for 5 minutes. Write down three questions or observations that you have.

**Commented [Office1]:** After 5 minutes, ask students to pause what they are doing on their laptops/tablets and share out what they found. You can model this on the projected sim or have students come up to show the class- whatever is easier.

- 2 Check the “all coefficients” checkbox  all coefficients and play with the sim. How would you describe a **coefficient**? 

A coefficient is...

- 3 How do you change a coefficient? 

- 4  $3$ ,  $z$ , and  $-2x^2$  are all **terms**. Use the sim to build three more examples of **terms** and share them below. How would you describe a **term**? 

1)

2)

3)

A term is...

- 5 When you overlap two terms, sometimes the sim shows a yellow glow. What is happening?

- 6 When you overlap two terms, sometimes you *can't* get a yellow glow. What is happening?

**Commented [Office2]:** When most students have answered #6, pause and bring the class together for a chance to share responses to these questions. When you overlap and get a yellow glow, you must have two of the same type of term (e.g.,  $2x$  and  $x$  become  $3x$ ) and the coefficient will increase. When you overlap and get a transparent box, you might have two of any types of terms and an expression is forming (e.g.,  $2x + x$  or  $2x + y$ ).

7  $x^2 - 2x^2 + y$  is an **expression**. Create an equivalent expression and confirm using the sim (  $x^2 - 2x^2 + y$  ).

**Commented [Office3]:** When most students have answered #7, pause and bring the class together for a chance to share responses to this question. You can use the edit button to go in to an expression and rearrange terms to be in any order, and can combine  $x^2$  and  $-2x^2$  to get  $-x^2$ .

8 Write an **equivalent expression** for each of the following and justify why they are equivalent by drawing algebra tiles, evaluating, or explaining:

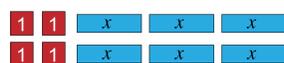
Expression	Equivalent Expression	Justify why they are equivalent
a. $7x^4 - 5x^4$		
b. $6b + 7b - 10$		
c. $-2(m + 5)$		
d. $y + 4 + 3(y + 2)$		

**Commented [KH5]:** might want to suggest that students work on one or two of these, have a class discussion, and then work on the others. It can maybe be optional for the teacher, but struggling students might need a little more scaffolding before doing several on their own first.

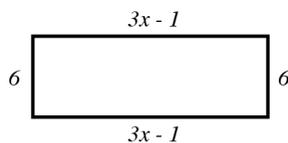
**Commented [Office4]:** Remind students to compare answers with other students if they haven't already.

9 Write two equivalent expressions to represent these algebra tiles:

$$\begin{matrix} \boxed{1} & = & 1 \\ \boxed{x} & = & x \end{matrix}$$

	Expression #1	Expression #2
		

10 Write an expression for the **perimeter** of this shape and **simplify it**.



**Commented [Office6]:** This is an area for possible confusion because the units could be interpreted as variables. You may want to remind students that unit of measurement are not the same thing as variables in this case

**Commented [Office7]:** Remind students to compare answers with other students if they haven't already. If you notice any disagreements, step in to ask some probing questions before stating whether someone is correct or incorrect.

11 Play the game! Be sure to try levels 7-8!

<p><b>Name:</b></p> <p>Simplify the following expression by combining like terms.</p> $-3m^2 + 2m + 5m^2 - 4m + 7$	<p><b>Name:</b></p> <p>Simplify the following expression by combining like terms.</p> $-3m^2 + 2m + 5m^2 - 4m + 7$
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